

Docket No. ASP-41

N THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Paul Jacobs et al.

Serial No.: 09/975,714

Art Unit: 1744

Filed

: October 11, 2001

Examiner:

For

: APPARATUS AND PROCESS FOR CONCENTRATING A LIQUID

STERILANT AND STERILIZING ARTICLES THEREWITH

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on

March 8, 2002

(Date of Deposit)

Andrew C. Farmer

(Name of applicant, assignee, or Registered Representative)

March 8, 2002

(Signature)

March 9, 2002

(Date of Signature)

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §\$1.97-1.98, information relating to the above-identified application is hereby disclosed. Inclusion of information in this statement is not to be construed as an admission that this information is material as that term is defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

Applicant(s) reserve(s) the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this

information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist.

| $igotimes$ In accordance with $\S1.97$ (b), since this Information |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Disclosure Statement is being filed either within three months |
| of the filing date of the above-identified national application |
| (other than a continued prosecution application under |
| §1.53(d)), within three months of the date of entry into the |
| national stage of the above identified application as set forth |
| in §1.491, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action |
| on the merits of the above-identified application, or before |
| the mailing date of a first Office Action after the filing of a |
| request for continued examination under §1.114, no additional |
| fee is required. |
| |
| \square In accordance with §1.129(a), this Information |
| Disclosure Statement is being filed in connection with [] the |
| first orsecond After Final Submission, therefore: |
| Statement in Accordance with §1.97(e) |
| (attached); or |
| Please charge Deposit Account No. 10-0750/ / |
| the fee of $$180.00$ as set forth in $$1.17(p)$. |
| |
| \square In accordance with §1.97(c), this Information |
| Disclosure Statement is being filed after the period set forth |
| in §1.97(b) above but before the mailing date of either a Final |

Action under §1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution and that it is accompanied by one of: Statement in Accordance with §1.97(e) (attached); or Please charge Deposit Account No. 10-0750/ the fee of \$180.00 as set forth in \$1.17(p). In accordance with §1.97(d), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing date of either a Final Action under §1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under §1.311 but before the payment of the Issue Fee. Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement. Included are: Statement in Accordance with §1.97(e) as set forth below and the fee of \$180.00 as set forth in \$1.17(p). Copies of each of the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are enclosed herewith. Copies of references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are enclosed herewith EXCEPT THAT: In view of the voluminous nature of references [list as appropriate], and the likelihood that these references are available to the Examiner, copies are not enclosed herewith. If any of the foregoing publications are not available to the Examiner, Applicant will

| endeavor to supply copies at the Examiner's request. | | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| There are no listed references which are not in the English language. | | | | |
| The relevance of those listed references which are not in the English language is as follows: | | | | |
| Attached are copies of search report(s) from corresponding patent application(s), which are listed on the attached Submission Under MPEP 609 D. | | | | |
| Attached are the following non-published pending | | | | |

Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 10-0750/ASP41/ACF. This form is submitted in triplicate.

patent applications which may be deemed relevant, which are

listed on the attached Submission Under MPEP 609 D.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew C. Farmer Reg. No. 35,868

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DATED: March , 2002



SUBMISSION UNDER MPEP 609 D

Page 1 of 1

| Application Number | 09/975,714 |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Filing Date | October 11, 2001 |
| First Named Inventor | Paul Jacobs et al. |
| Group Art Unit | 1744 |
| Examiner Name | |
| Attorney Docket Number | ASP-41 |
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| | | | U.S. Patent Docum | | | |
|----------------------|--------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| Examiner Initials | Cite No.1 | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | . Kind Code ² Number (if known) | | Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear | |
| | | Johnson & Johnson copenting U.S. Application SN 09/223,594 filed December 30, 1998 entitled STERILIZATION OF DIFFUSION- RESTRICTED AREA BY REVAPORIZING THE CONDENSED VAPRO (Docket No. JJM-439) | | | | |
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials | Cite No. ¹ | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | | | Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear | Т ⁶ | |
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| | L.,, | OTHER PRIOR ART - N | ON PATENT | LITERATURE | DOCUMEN | ITS | |
| Include name of the author (in CAPITOL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published | | | T² | | | | |
| PCT International Search Report International Application No. PCT/US99/31100 dated March 30, 2000. | | | | | | | |
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| Examiner | Date | |
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